



The Stones River Greenway Arboretum
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

The Murfreesboro Arboretum is located along the scenic Stones River Greenway system. It is composed of tree species that are native to the area and many of the examples in the arboretum are original to the site. The greenway and adjoining arboretum are accessible to the public through several easily identifiable locations throughout the city. It has been designed with handicapped accessible ramps and wide paved trail ways for both ease of access and comfort while viewing the arboretum.

The arboretum and greenway system are the inspired vision of Congressman Bart Gordon and respected City officials. This system was made possible through a



Federal ISTEA (Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act) grant as well as matching funds from the City of Murfreesboro. Through this vision many environmental, historical and archaeological sites have been conserved for both the education and enjoyment of the public. Not only has this destination served the educational interests of the public, it has also developed into a tourist location drawing an average of 200 to 300 users daily and with completed additions the annual use is expected to be between 73,000 and 109,000. Some of the direct benefits of this location are:

- The ability for local residents and visitors alike to view flora and fauna in their native surroundings.
- The opportunity for safe, pleasant alternatives to commuting by car.
- The opportunity to monitor the effects of a model bicycle project to see its effect on traffic patterns.
- The reintroduction of the public to the Stones River and Lytle Creek, which were major contributors to the development of Murfreesboro.

- A new destination for environmental education and awareness programs and field trips for area schools and recreational departments.
- A safe, attractive course for off-road athletic events.
- Interpretation opportunities for the various battlefield sites.
- A variety of sites for new recreational opportunities.
- New business opportunities in the areas of concessions, bicycle rentals and repairs, etc.
- To enhance visitor and citizen appreciation of the rich and diverse heritage of this area.
- Improved water and air quality.

The greenway system and the arboretum are both maintained by the City of Murfreesboro. The arboretum is specifically maintained by the Urban



Environmental Department staff, which is well trained in the maintenance and care for all tree species located inside the arboretum. The staff, consisting of ten employees including the City Horticulturalist and City Arborist, strives for the highest quality of care for the urban forest.

A visitor can expect to view over thirty different species of trees and plants in their natural surroundings. The unique location near the historic Stones River permits an opportunity to view our urban forest and at the same time be introduced to a number of birds, reptiles, mammals,

native wild flowers and other plant types, presenting visitors with a well rounded experience.

The opportunities presented to a visitor to the Murfreesboro Arboretum are varied in many ways. The location along the Stones River greenway allows access to a large part of the city while still enjoying the tranquil setting of the urban forest. While viewing the arboretum a visitor may choose to enjoy one of the many recreational areas connected to the greenway, such as Old Fort Park, Fortress Rosecrans, Stones River National Battlefield, Cannonsburg, or possibly shop at the Farmers Market or one of many other locations just a short stroll away. The system has brought many benefits to educators. The arboretum and greenway system are a popular location for field trips of young students and a source of information and research samples for middle school and high school students. Young students can begin to identify the different trees and middle school students can find an abundance of samples for assigned leaf projects. Our local university, Middle Tennessee State University, frequently makes use of the varied species and environment for study in their biology and botany courses.



We feel that the Murfreesboro Arboretum is an excellent representation of native trees in their natural surroundings that present the public with a rare opportunity that can be enjoyed by the entire family. The arboretum is open to the public at no charge and is an efficient and effective use of land that might otherwise be neglected or unavailable for public enjoyment.

Number	Common Name	Botanical Name
1	American Elm	<i>Ulmus americana</i>
2	Baldcypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>
3	Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>
4	Black Gum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>
5	Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>
6	Black Walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>
7	Black Willow	<i>Salix nigra</i>
8	Boxelder	<i>Acer negundo</i>
9	Burr Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>
10	Catalpa	<i>Catalpa bignonioides</i>
11	Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus prinus</i>
12	Cottonwood	<i>Populus deltoides</i>
13	Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>
14	Eastern Redcedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>
15	Fringetree	<i>Chlonanthus virginicus</i>
16	Green Ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>
17	Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>
18	Honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>
19	Osage Orange	<i>Maclura pomifera</i>
20	Pawpaw	<i>Asimina triloba</i>
21	Persimmon	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>
22	Post Oak	<i>Quercus stellata</i>
23	Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>
24	Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>
25	Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
26	Shagbark Hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>
27	Shingle Oak	<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>
28	Silver Maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>
29	Slippery Elm	<i>Ulmus rubra</i>
30	Swamp White Oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>
31	Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>
32	Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>
33	Tulip Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>
34	White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>
35	Yellow Buckeye	<i>Aesculus octandra</i>
36	Yellowwood	<i>Cladrastis lutea</i>



Post Oak & Willow Oak



Bur Oak



Stones River